

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 033006  
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00  
DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 FAA-00 TRSE-00 OMB-01  
SS-15 NSC-05 PRS-01 /047 R

DRAFTED BY EB/AN:ARIMAS:BA  
APPROVED BY EB/AN:JBMAGNOR  
CAB:AFISCH  
ARA/CAR:DPIERCE  
ARA/ECP:DTAHER

-----142025Z 037751 /42

R 141928Z FEB 77  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN  
AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN  
AMEMBASSY NASSAU  
AMEMBASSY CARACAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 033006

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAIR

SUBJECT: CIVAIR: DELTA AIRLINES PLANS TO SUSPEND SERVICE  
TO JAMAICA

1. ON FEB 11 DELTA AIRLINES FILED WITH CAB APPLICATION TO  
SUSPEND, EFFECTIVE MARCH 15, THE MONTEGO BAY STOP ON  
DELTA'S WEEKLY ROUND TRIP FLIGHT: NEW ORLEANS-MONTEGO BAY-  
MARACAIBO-CARACAS. THIS MEASURE WOULD TAKE DELTA OUT  
OF JAMAICA AND INTRODUCE NON-STOP SERVICE BETWEEN  
NEW ORLEANS AND VENEZUELA. ALTHOUGH SUSPENSION IS  
DESCRIBED AS TEMPORARY, DELTA HAS NO PLANS AT THIS TIME  
TO RESUME ITS JAMAICA SERVICE. A COPY OF DELTA'S APPLI-  
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PAGE 02 STATE 033006

CATION WILL BE POUCHED WHEN AVAILABLE.

2. THE REASONS CITED FOR THE PROPOSED SUSPENSION INCLUDE  
A DECLINE IN PASSENGER TRAFFIC AND AN INCREASE IN AIRLINE  
OPERATING COSTS. IN 1976, DELTA ENPLANED AND DEPLANED  
SOME 4,000 PASSENGERS IN MONTEGO BAY COMPARED TO 31,359  
IN 1972. IN 1976, DELTA LOST OVER 6,000 DOLS IN ITS

MONTEGO BAY-NEW ORLEANS OPERATIONS.

3. INFORMALLY, DELTA HAS INFORMED DEPARTMENT THAT THE DETERIORATING POLITICAL AND ECONOMIC CLIMATE IN JAMAICA IS A KEY FACTOR IN DELTA'S DECISION. SOCIAL UNREST AND

GOJ'S ECONOMIC BELT-TIGHTENING MEASURES HAVE CLOUDED PROSPECTS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN THE FALLING DEMAND FOR AIR TRAVEL TO JAMAICA, THE AIRLINE CLAIMED.

4. NO STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN BY DELTA TO INFORM JAMAICAN AUTHORITIES OF THE PROPOSED SUSPENSION. IF CAB APPROVES THE APPLICATION, DELTA WILL COMMUNICATE ITS INTENTIONS TO THE JAMAICANS. HOWEVER, CAB'S APPLICATION PROCEEDINGS ARE PUBLIC AND JAMAICANS MAY WELL EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON THE SUBJECT IN THE NEAR FUTURE. EMBASSY'S ASSESSMENT CONCERNING PROBABLE JAMAICAN REACTION AND ANY OTHER PERTINENT COMMENTS ARE REQUESTED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIR ROUTE APPLICATIONS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE033006  
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**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** ARIMAS:BA  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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